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WYOMING LABOR FORCE TRENDS

Vol. 26 No. 8 A Monthly Newsletter Published in Cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics August, 1989

Trend Setters

	May'89	Jun'89
Wyoming		
Labor Force	224,410	229,676
Employment	210,815	217,037
Unemployment	13,595	12,639
Rate (Raw)	6.1	5.5
Rate (S.A.)	6.1	6.1
Mining Hourly Wage	$14.27	$14.21
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.2	42.9
USA		
Rate (S.A.)	5.2	5.3
Mining Hourly Wage	$13.14	$13.10
Avg. Weekly Hours, Mining	42.1	42.3
Consumer Price Index		
All Urban (1982-1984 = 100)		
U.S. City Avg.	123.8	124.1
Year Change (U.S.)	+5.2	+5.2

National Civilian Employment Up 1.7 Million in June

In June, the national economy registered a healthy monthly employment gain of almost two million new workers, a gain of 325,000 after seasonal adjustment. Services, retail trade and construction continued to fuel the economy with the largest worker gains.

The U.S. labor force participation rate, at 66.6 percent, was a record high in June. Over the year, the civilian labor force has risen by 2.6 million, 1.5 million of which occurred among adult women and 1.2 million among adult men.

U.S. Unemployment at 5.3 Percent

National unemployment was little changed in June, at 5.3 percent seasonally adjusted, compared to 5.2 percent in May and 5.4 percent last year. In June 6.6 million job seekers were unemployed in the nation. This does not include 870,000 discouraged workers -- persons who want to work but have not looked for jobs because they believe they cannot find any. The jobless rate was lowest for adult men (4.3 percent) and highest for teenagers (15.6 percent). The median duration of unemployment, at 5.5 weeks, was about the same as May and was down only slightly over the year.

Wyoming Unemployment Continues at 6.1 Percent

Seasonally adjusted unemployment in the state in June continued at the May level of 6.1 percent, up from 5.7 percent a year ago. Unadjusted, the June rate dropped over one-half percentage point, to 5.5 percent. Year ago unemployment stood at 5.1 percent. In May, the latest data available for all states, Wyoming and Colorado ranked eighth highest in seasonally unadjusted unemployment, with 6.1 percent. Louisiana continued at the top with 9.4 percent and neighboring Nebraska was at the bottom with 2.5 percent. Connecticut and New Hampshire followed, both at 2.9 percent.

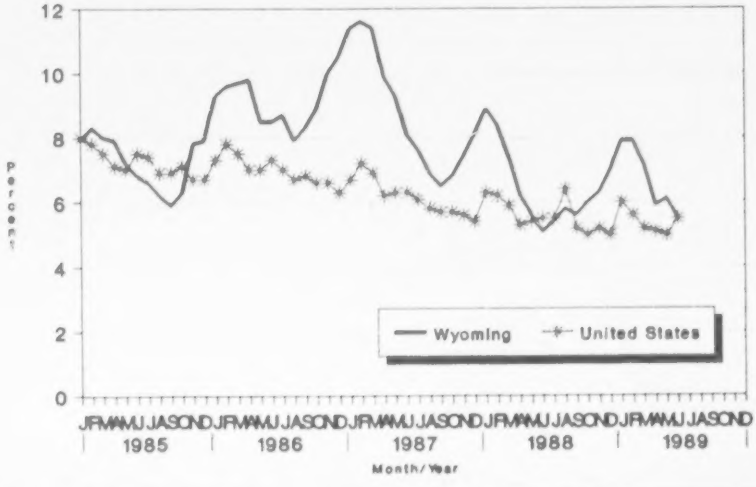
Statewide Employment Up 6,200 in June

In Wyoming, total civilian employment, workers, at 217,000 registered a seasonal gain of over 6,200 in June as compared to May. The June count, however, was down almost 3.0 percent from the 223,000 of June, 1988. The civilian labor force of 229,700 in June was also down from the year ago count of 235,100.

Wyoming Service-Producing Industries Gain

On an optimistic note, state and local government indicated an annual gain of 2,100 workers in June. Street and highway construction account for the bulk of this gain. Services, trade and transportation and utilities also had healthy annual worker gains of 900, 500 and 400 workers in June. These recent trends parallel the U.S. trend of employment growth being concentrated in the service-producing industries.

Unemployment Rate, Wyoming and U.S.
Civilian Unadjusted
1985 - 1989


12
10
8
6
4
2
0
Percent
Wyoming
United States
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1985
1986
1987
1988
1989
Month/Year

Wyoming's Pocket of Prosperity

The Jackson Hole area continued its status as Wyoming's pocket of prosperity. In June, Teton County registered a record low unemployment rate of 1.1 percent, certainly one of the lowest rates in the nation. If history repeats itself unemployment could drop even lower in July and August. The June rate indicates only about 160 jobseekers were unemployed. The lowest unemployment recorded in a metropolitan statistical area, in May, was in Portland, Maine at 1.9 percent.

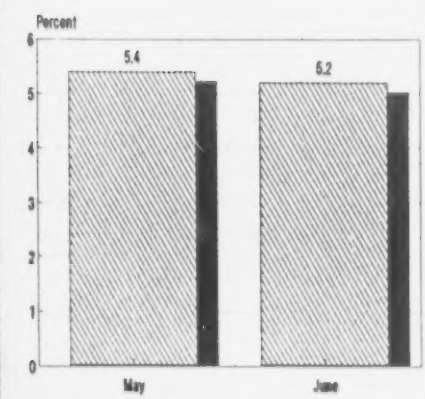
The Rest of the State

Niobrara and Albany counties also had relatively low unemployment rates of 2.3 and 3.2 percent. Lincoln County had the highest unemployment at 8.0 percent, followed by Campbell and Uinta at 7.6 and 7.4 percent. Natrona County, the Casper area, continued with the most unemployed, over 1,900, with a rate of 6.8 percent.

1988 Population Statistics Released

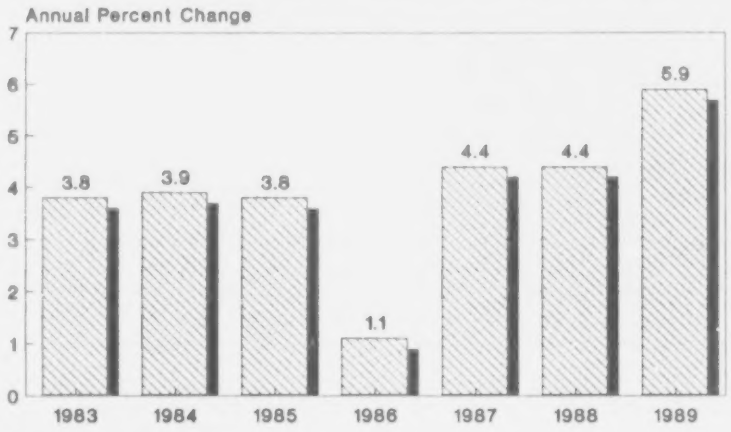
Recent population figures released by the U.S. Census Bureau estimated the July, 1988 Wyoming population at 479,000, the least populated state in the nation. Alaska and Vermont followed at 524 and 557 thousand.

Consumer Price Index
Annual Percent Change
All Urban



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

Consumer Price Index
Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rates



1989 estimate based on first six months.
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Consumer Price Index – June 1989

During the first six months of 1989, the CPI-U increased at a 5.9 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR), the largest December-to-June advance since 1982, when the CPI rose at a 6.3 percent annual rate. The 5.9 percent rate during the first half of 1989 compares with an annual increase of 4.4 percent in 1988. The sharp rise in petroleum-based energy prices in 1989 -- up at a 40.3 percent rate -- was primarily responsible for the acceleration. The food index, which last year recorded its largest increase since 1980, advanced at an even more rapid pace in the first half of 1989. The CPI excluding food and energy -- up at a 4.5 percent rate as in 1988.

Census 1990

Preparations for the 1990 Census are in full swing as Census Day -- April 1, 1990 -- draws near. How big will the 1990 Census be?

- The Census Bureau estimates that it will count about 250 million people and about 106 million housing units.
- The Census Bureau will print about 250 million questionnaires and label and assemble over 106 million questionnaire packages.
- There will be about 70 million questionnaires returned within two weeks of Census Day.
- From 1984 to 1993, the total cost of planning, carrying out and providing results of the Census will be about $2.6 billion. More than $1.3 billion will be spent in 1990.
- The Census will create about 635,000 temporary jobs. The Census will hire about 565,000 people, some of whom will do more than one job.

What effect will the 1990 Census have on Wyoming?

- Additional Census District Offices will open in Fall 1989 in Casper and Cheyenne. Each office will hire 300 to 400 employees for a total employment of over 600 in the state of Wyoming.
- The cost of field operations for the 1990 Decennial Census in Wyoming will total over $2.69 million.

1987 Wyoming Occupational Employment Statistics

Occupational staffing patterns for selected Wyoming nonmanufacturing industries are available in the 1987 Wyoming Occupational Employment Statistics, Selected Nonmanufacturing publication. The report summarizes the occupational makeup of

industries such as mining, construction, banking, insurance and services. Each industry is listed by two-digit Standard Industrial Classification Code and includes specific occupations as well as summaries of major occupational groups. A list of top occupations based on employment is available for each industry in the publication.

The *1987 Occupational Employment Statistics, Selected Nonmanufacturing* publication is available from Michael Paris of the Research and Analysis Section, Wyoming Employment Security Commission.

ALBANY, WYOMING

Albany County's 1987 population of 29,100 ranked 6th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - In 1987, Albany had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $12,033. This PCPI ranked 16th in the state, and was 95 percent of the state average ($12,706) and 78 percent of the national average ($15,484). In 1977, Albany's PCPI of $6,042 ranked 21st in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past ten years was 7.1 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.0 percent and for the nation was 7.8 percent.

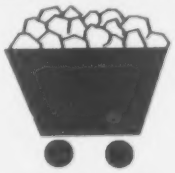
BIG HORN, WYOMING

Big Horn County's 1987 population of 11,900 ranked 14th in the state.

PER CAPITA PERSONAL INCOME - In 1987, Big Horn had a per capita personal income (PCPI) of $9,786. This PCPI ranked 23rd in the state, and was 77 percent of the state average ($12,706) and 63 percent of the national average ($15,484). In 1977, Big Horn's PCPI of $5,717 ranked 23rd in the state. The average annual growth rate of PCPI over the past 10 years was 5.5 percent. The average annual growth rate for the state was 5.0 percent and for the nation was 7.8 percent.

Wyoming Coal Update

Final Coal production figures released by state agencies during the second quarter of 1988 confirm that

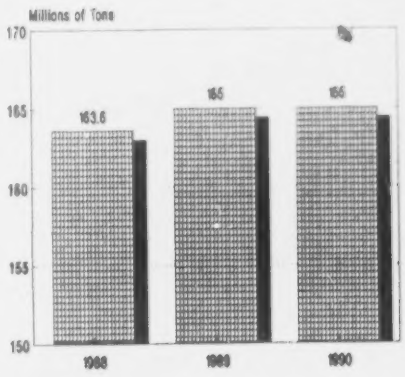


Wyoming was the nation's leading coal-producing state in 1988. Kentucky's coal production of 161.2 million short tons in 1988, as reported by the Kentucky Department of Mines and Minerals, was about 2.4 million tons less than Wyoming's record 163.6 million tons (reported by the Wyoming State Inspector of Mines). This is not only the first time Wyoming has led the nation in production, but is also the first time in 15 years that Kentucky has not led the nation in coal production.

National coal production in 1988 was about 959 million tons, which breaks the previous record of 915 million tons set in 1987. Most coal forecasters are expecting 1989 national coal production to be about the same or slightly above 1988 production. Wyoming produced about 17 percent of the nation's coal in 1988. Wyoming's coal production should continue to gradually increase for several years.

Average productivity at Wyoming mines, defined here as the ratio between the number of tons produced and the number of employees, increased in 1988, as each employee accounted for 36,088 tons of coal produced. In 1987, each employee accounted for 33,119 tons of coal produced. At mines in the Powder River Basin, each employee in 1988 accounted for 51,083 tons of coal (compared to 44,290 tons in 1987); in southern Wyoming mines, each employee in 1988 accounted for 12,869 tons of coal production (compared to 11,764 tons in 1987).

Wyoming Coal Production
1988 - 1990



1989 and 1990 are estimates.
Source: Geological Survey of Wyoming.
Scale does not begin at zero.

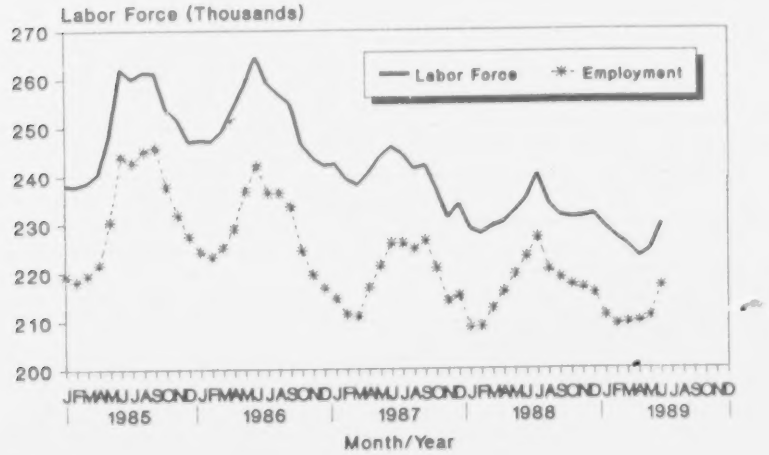
Consumer Price Index

(1982-1984 = 100)
All Urban

	June 1989	Annual % change
All Items	124.1	5.2
Food & Beverage	124.9	6.2
Housing	122.9	3.6
Entertainment	126.2	5.1
Apparel & Upkeep	117.8	2.8
Transportation	115.9	6.8
Medical	148.5	7.5

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Wyoming Labor Force and Employment
1985 - 1989


Labor Force (Thousands)
270
260
250
240
230
220
210
200
Labor Force
Employment
J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D J F M A M J J A S O N D
1985
1986
1987
1988
1989
Month/Year

Scale does not begin at zero.
Source: Local Area Unemployment Statistics, BLS and Research & Analysis.

WYOMING
ECONOMIC INDICATORS

TABLE 1

ITEM	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS JUNE 1989	MAY 1989	JUNE 1988	% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP. Percent Change From A Month Ago	A Year Ago
WYOMING EMPLOYMENT DATA					
Total Civilian Labor Force	229,676	224,410	235,063	2.3%	- 2.3%
Unemployment	12,639	13,595	12,005	- 7.0	5.3
Employed Labor Force	217,037	210,815	223,058	3.0	- 2.7
a. Covered Employment (Under WY UI Law) [3]	183,100	175,300	183,129	4.4	0.0
b. Agriculture [3]	14,305	14,346	14,882	- 0.3	- 3.9
Total Unemployment Rate (WY) Seasonally Adjusted*	5.5% 6.1%*	6.1% 6.1%*	5.1% 5.7%*	XXX	XXX
Total Unemployment Rate (U. S.) Seasonally Adjusted*	5.5% 5.3%*	5.0% 5.2%*	5.5% 5.4%*	XXX	XXX
Insured Unemployment Rate (WY) [4]	1.7%	2.0%	1.8%	XXX	XXX
HOURS AND EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 609.61	$ 602.19	$ 630.28	1.2	- 3.3
Average Weekly Hours	42.9	42.2	43.8	1.7	- 2.1
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 14.21	$ 14.27	$ 14.39	- 0.4	- 1.3
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE					
Claims Filed in Local Offices	13,328	18,630	15,330	-28.5	-13.1
a. Initial	2,044	2,109	2,167	- 3.1	- 5.7
Weeks Compensated	10,350	13,906	11,675	-25.6	-11.3
Total Amount Benefits Paid	$1,621,041	$2,162,134	$1,752,780	-25.0	- 7.5
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$ 155.36	$ 454.75	$ 149.57	0.4	3.9
EMPLOYMENT SERVICE					
Total Applications Received During Month	4,532	4,033	N.A.	12.4	XXX
Total Openings Received	5,382	3,182	N.A.	69.1	XXX
Individual Placements	2,835	1,447	N.A.	95.9	XXX
Placement Transactions	4,809	2,706	N.A.	77.7	XXX
UNITED STATES DATA					
HOURS AND EARNINGS					
Mining (Production Workers):					
Average Weekly Earnings	$ 554.13	$ 553.19	$ 535.93	0.2	3.4
Average Weekly Hours	42.3	42.1	42.5	0.5	0.5
Average Hourly Earnings	$ 13.10	$ 13.14	$ 12.61	- 0.3	3.9
PRICE INDEXES					
Consumer Price Index 1982-1984 = 100	124.1	123.8	118.0	0.2	5.2
Producer Prices, All Commodities 1982-1984 = 100	112.8	113.1	107.2	- 0.3	5.2
Food and Beverage, 1982-1984 = 100	124.9	124.7	117.6	0.2	6.2

[1] Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-agricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded. [2] Subject to revision. [3] Revised figures.

WYOMING
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE AND UNEMPLOYMENT
TABLE 2 (Prepared in Cooperation with U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

COUNTY	LABOR FORCE JUNE 1989	LABOR FORCE MAY 1989	LABOR FORCE JUNE 1988	% CHANGE MAY-JUNE	% CHANGE JUNE-JUNE	UNEMPLOYMENT JUNE 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT MAY 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT JUNE 1988	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE JUNE 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MAY 1989	UNEMPLOYMENT RATE JUNE 1988
Statewide	229,676	224,410	235,063	2.3	- 2.3	12,639	13,595	12,005	5.5	6.1	5.1
Statewide - Seasonally Adjusted									6.1	6.1	5.7
Albany	13,589	14,398	14,557	- 5.6	- 6.6	436	482	429	3.2	3.3	2.9
Big Horn	5,118	5,199	4,894	- 1.6	4.6	282	331	307	5.5	6.4	6.3
Campbell	14,386	14,668	14,875	- 1.9	- 3.3	1,096	1,190	893	7.6	8.1	6.0
Carbon	7,347	6,943	7,832	5.8	- 6.2	470	468	472	6.4	6.7	.0
Converse	5,454	5,557	5,523	- 1.9	- 1.2	355	389	350	6.5	7.0	6.3
Crook	2,936	2,810	3,137	4.5	- 6.4	147	169	167	5.0	6.0	5.3
Fremont	15,885	16,074	15,623	- 1.2	1.7	1,069	1,190	1,115	6.7	7.4	7.1
Goshen	5,650	5,744	6,036	- 1.6	- 6.4	194	247	302	3.4	4.3	5.0
Hot Springs	2,786	2,862	2,957	- 2.7	- 5.8	100	144	120	3.6	5.0	4.1
Johnson	3,859	3,637	3,826	6.1	0.9	181	168	144	4.7	4.6	3.8
Laramie	33,602	33,145	35,052	1.4	- 4.1	1,734	1,777	1,515	5.2	5.4	4.3
Lincoln	5,657	5,652	5,964	0.1	- 5.1	452	436	380	8.0	7.7	6.4
Natrona	28,479	28,629	29,516	- 0.5	- 3.5	1,926	1,945	1,605	6.8	6.8	5.4
Niobrara	1,237	1,264	1,522	- 2.1	-18.7	29	28	71	2.3	2.2	4.7
Park	14,841	13,099	14,698	13.3	1.0	710	740	539	4.8	5.6	3.7
Platte	4,722	4,846	4,466	- 2.6	5.7	240	289	207	5.1	6.0	4.6
Sheridan	13,106	13,191	12,311	- 0.6	6.5	619	628	520	4.7	4.8	4.2
Sublette	2,609	2,476	2,801	5.4	- 6.9	120	144	185	4.6	5.8	6.6
Sweetwater	17,932	18,168	18,657	- 1.3	- 3.9	1,273	1,247	1,345	7.1	6.9	7.2
Teton	13,897	9,226	13,347	50.6	4.1	156	249	255	1.1	2.7	1.9
Uinta	9,371	9,325	9,865	0.5	- 5.0	698	832	672	7.4	8.9	6.8
Washakie	4,067	4,190	4,436	2.9	- 8.3	176	298	263	4.3	7.1	5.9
Weston	3,148	3,311	3,168	4.9	- 0.6	178	206	149	5.7	6.2	4.7
United States									5.5	5.0	5.5
United States - Seasonally Adjusted								5.3	5.2	5.4	

The data contained in this table includes updated procedures mandated by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics. In addition, the 1988 data has been benchmarked to the Current Population Survey as conducted in Wyoming.

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

TABLE 3 (Prepared in Cooperation with U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS			% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP.	
	JUNE 1989 [2] TOTAL	MAY 1989 [3] TOTAL	JUNE 1988 TOTAL	MAY 1989 to JUNE 1989	JUNE 1988 to JUNE 1989
WYOMING NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT					
Total Non-Farm Wage and Salary Employment	196.4	190.0	191.7	3.4%	2.5%
Manufacturing	9.2	9.0	8.9	2.2	3.4
Durable Goods	4.2	4.0	4.1	5.0	2.4
Nondurable Goods	5.0	5.0	4.8	0.0	4.2
Petroleum and Coal Products	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	187.2	181.0	182.8	3.4	2.4
Mining	18.6	18.3	18.7	1.6	- 0.5
Contract Construction	11.5	10.4	11.3	10.6	1.8
Transportation and Public Utilities	13.9	13.7	13.5	1.5	3.0
Railroad Transportation	2.0	2.0	1.9	0.0	5.3
Transportation except Railroads	6.1	5.9	5.7	3.4	7.0
Communications, Electricity, Gas and Sanitary Services	5.8	5.8	5.9	0.0	- 1.7
Wholesale and Retail Trade	43.3	42.1	42.8	2.9	1.2
Wholesale Trade	7.0	6.9	6.9	1.5	1.5
Retail Trade	36.3	35.2	35.9	3.1	1.1
Food Stores	5.3	5.2	5.0	1.9	6.0
Automotive Dealers and Service Stations	5.9	5.7	5.6	3.5	5.4
Eating and Drinking Places	14.0	13.3	13.9	5.3	0.7
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	7.3	7.3	7.2	0.0	1.4
Services	37.4	33.1	36.5	13.0	2.5
Personal Services	1.9	1.9	1.8	0.0	5.6
Medical and Other Health Services	6.9	6.9	6.9	0.0	0.0
Government	55.2	56.1	52.8	- 1.6	4.6
Federal Government	8.6	8.3	8.3	3.6	3.6
State and Local Government	46.6	47.8	44.5	- 2.5	4.7
State Government	14.8	14.6	13.6	1.4	8.8
Local Government	31.8	33.2	30.9	- 4.2	2.9

See footnotes at end of table

NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT IN WYOMING [1]

TABLE 3 (Continued) (Publication of Cheyenne data is not sanctioned by the Bureau of Labor Statistics)

INDUSTRY	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS JUNE 1989 [2] TOTAL	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS MAY 1989 [3] TOTAL	EMPLOYMENT IN THOUSANDS JUNE 1988 TOTAL	% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP. MAY 1989 to JUNE 1989	% CHANGE IN TOTAL EMP. JUNE 1988 to JUNE 1989
CASPER (Natrona County)					
Total Non-Farm Wage and Salary Employment	27.0	27.4	27.0	- 1.5%	0.0%
Manufacturing	1.5	1.4	1.4	7.1	7.1
Nondurable Goods	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
Petroleum and Coal Products	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.0	-25.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	25.5	26.0	25.6	- 1.9	- 0.4
Mining	2.7	2.7	2.6	0.0	3.9
Oil and Gas Extraction	2.5	2.5	2.4	0.0	4.2
Other Mining, Quarrying, etc.	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
Contract Construction	1.7	1.6	1.6	6.3	6.3
Transportation and Public Utilities	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0
Wholesale and Retail Trade	7.8	7.7	7.6	1.3	2.6
Wholesale Trade	2.2	2.1	2.1	4.8	4.8
Retail Trade	5.6	5.6	5.5	0.0	1.8
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.4	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0
Services	5.8	5.7	5.7	1.8	1.8
Government	4.3	5.1	4.9	-15.7	-12.2
Federal Government	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.0
State and Local Government	3.6	4.4	4.2	-18.2	-14.3
CHEYENNE (Laramie County)					
Total Non-Farm Wage and Salary Employment	30.6	30.6	30.5	0.0%	0.3%
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0
Total Non-Manufacturing Employment	29.3	29.3	29.2	0.0	0.3
Contract Construction	1.4	1.4	1.6	0.0	-12.5
Transportation and Public Utilities	3.0	3.0	2.9	0.0	3.5
Wholesale and Retail Trade	7.0	7.0	6.9	0.0	1.5
Wholesale Trade	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	6.2	6.2	6.1	0.0	1.6
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	1.8	1.8	1.9	0.0	- 5.3
Services	5.5	5.5	5.6	0.0	- 1.8
Government	10.6	10.5	10.3	1.0	2.9
Federal Government	2.8	2.8	2.7	0.0	3.7
State and Local Government	7.8	7.7	7.6	1.3	2.6

[1] *Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers in non-agricultural establishments who worked or received pay during the week which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employeds, domestic servants and personnel of the armed forces are excluded.* [2] *Subject to revision.* [3] *Revised figures.*

RETURN IN 5 DAYS TO
Employment Security Commission of Wyoming
P. O. BOX 2760
CASPER, WYOMING 82602

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, $300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY MAIL
LAB 449

U.S. MAIL

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Congressional Information Service
ATTN: SRI
4520 East West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814

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Wyoming

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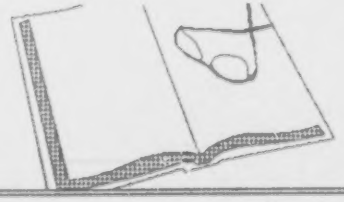

W Y O M I N G

LABOR FORCE TRENDS

The **Wyoming Labor Force Trends** is published by the Research and Analysis Section of the Wyoming Employment Security Commission.

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ISSN 0512-4409